

(KEYWORD, SUMMARY, AND DIGEST as amended by Senate committee amendments)

**TAX/TAX REBATES. Clarifies and specifies the value of health care benefits offered to employees as a factor in the determination of qualification for tax rebates under the Louisiana Quality Jobs Program.**

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DIGEST

Present law provides for the definition of "benefit rate" for use in calculating sales, income, and corporation franchise tax rebates. Benefit rate is based on the amount of wages and health care benefits provided for a new direct job. The amount of a rebate is based on the benefit rate multiplied by the employer payroll.

Proposed law retains present law and clarifies that the value of the health care benefits offered shall be included with the amount of wage with the determination of the qualification of a job to receive a certain benefit rate.

Present law provides for the definition of "health care benefits" for use in determining the benefit rate, which rate is used in calculating sales, income, and corporation franchise tax rebates.

Proposed law retains present law and specifies that the value of health care benefits offered in accordance with the provisions of present law shall be treated as having been paid, regardless of whether an employee accepts the health plan or coverage, provided that at least 50% of the employees holding new direct jobs accept the health care benefits offered.

Provides that proposed law applies only to rebate requests filed by employers on or after July 1, 2012.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 51:2453(1) and (6), 2455(A), and 2457(A)(2)(a), (b), and (f))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Ways and Means to the original bill.

1. Changed the condition and the period for which proposed law becomes applicable from retroactively and for contracts subject to the provisions of Act No. 387 of the 2007 R.S. to rebate requests filed by employers on or after July 1, 2012.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs to the engrossed bill.

1. Specifies that the value of health care benefits offered pursuant to present law shall be treated as having been paid, regardless of whether an employee accepts the health plan or coverage, provided that at least 50% of the employees holding new direct jobs accept the health care benefits offered.